

## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1           1.       (Currently Amended) A method of generating a configuration comprising a  
2 plurality of components each having an associated context, said associated context equal to one  
3 or more of a plurality of values, said method comprising:  
4           storing a current first context state in response to a requirement for the installation of a  
5           first component, wherein the first component is one of the plurality of  
6           components and the first context state represents state of a context to which the  
7           first component belongs and the context represents a limitation of choices for  
8           components;  
9           changing the current state of the context to a context state corresponding to the context  
10           associated with the first component if the current first context state and the  
11           context associated with the first component are not equal;  
12           installing the first component as part of the configuration;  
13           upon installing the first component as part of the configuration, changing a first state of  
14           the configuration to a second configuration state that includes the first component;  
15           and  
16           restoring the stored first context state upon completing installation of the first component  
17           without changing the second configuration state.

1           2.       (Currently Amended) A computer system adapted to generate a configuration, the  
2 computer system comprising:  
3           a processor; and  
4           a memory coupled to the processor and configured to store a current first context state in  
5           response to a requirement for the installation of a first component, wherein the  
6           first component is one of a plurality of components each having an associated  
7           context, said associated context state equal to one or more of a plurality of values  
8           and the first context state represents state of a context to which the first  
9           component belongs and the context represents a limitation of choices for

10                    components, wherein the memory further includes code executable by the  
11                    processor to:  
12                    change the current first context state to a context state corresponding to the context  
13                    associated with the first component if the current first context state and the  
14                    context associated with the first component are not equal;  
15                    install the first component as part of the configuration;  
16                    change a first state of the configuration to a second configuration state that includes the  
17                    first component upon installation of the first component as part of the  
18                    configuration; and  
19                    restore the stored first context state upon a completion of an installation of the first  
20                    component without changing the second configuration state.

1                    3.        (Canceled).

1                    4.        (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the configuration  
2                    comprises the configuration of a product that is a member of the group consisting of:  
3                    automobiles, computer hardware, computer software, professional service products, financial  
4                    service products, medical products, pharmaceutical products, and construction products.

1                    5.        (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the context associated  
2                    with the first component represents a limited set of additional components that are compatible as  
3                    additions to a particular configuration with the first component.

1                    6.        (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the context associated  
2                    with the first component represents a class of components that are compatible as additions to a  
3                    particular configuration with the first component.

1                    7.        (Previously Presented) The method of claim 6 wherein each component is  
2                    associated with a context attribute that allows identification of the context of each component,  
3                    the method further comprising:

4                    processing the context attribute associated with the installed first component to determine  
5                    the context associated with the installed first component.

1           8.       (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein each associated context is  
2 a member of the group consisting of: a product line comprising compatible components, a  
3 current inventory, and a country of purchase.

1           9.       (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising:  
2 as a result of installing the first component as part of the configuration, installing one or  
3 more additional components, wherein each additional installed component has an  
4 associated context; and  
5 storing nested context states associated with each context of each additional installed  
6 component; and  
7 restoring a stored state of the context upon completing installation of the component  
8 further comprises restoring the stored state to an immediately preceding stored  
9 nested context state upon completing installation of each additional component by  
10 restoring the nested context states in reverse.

1           10.      (Canceled)

1           11.      (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 2 wherein the  
2 configuration comprises the configuration of a product that is a member of the group consisting  
3 of: automobiles, computer hardware, computer software, professional service products, financial  
4 service products, medical products, pharmaceutical products, and construction products.

1           12.      (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 2 wherein the context  
2 associated with the first component represents a limited set of additional components that are  
3 compatible as additions to a particular configuration with the first component.

1           13.      (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 2 wherein the context  
2 associated with the first component represents a class of components that are compatible as  
3 additions to a particular configuration with the first component.

1           14.     (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 13 wherein each  
2 component is associated with a context attribute that allows identification of the context of each  
3 component and the memory further includes code executable by the processor to process the  
4 context attribute associated with the installed first component to determine the context associated  
5 with the installed first component.

1           15.     (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 2 wherein each associated  
2 context is a member of the group consisting of: a product line comprising compatible  
3 components, a current inventory, and a country of purchase.

1           16.     (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 2 wherein:  
2 the memory is also configured to store nested context states in response to a requirement  
3 for the installation of additional components due to the previous installation of  
4 other components and each additional installed component has an associated  
5 context; and  
6 the memory further includes code executable by the processor to restore the stored state  
7 of the context upon completing installation of each additional component by  
8 restoring the nested context states in reverse.

1           17.     (Cancelled)

1           18.     (Cancelled)

1           19.     (Cancelled)

1           20.     (Cancelled)

1           21.     (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein if the first context state  
2 and the context associated with the first component are equal, the method further comprises:  
3 retaining the first context state as the current context state;

4 installing the first component as part of the configuration while retaining the first context  
5 state as the current context state; and  
6 upon installing the first component as part of the configuration, changing a first state of  
7 the configuration to a second configuration state that includes the first component  
8 while retaining the first context state as the current context state.

1 22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising:  
2 storing the current first context state in response to a requirement for the installation of a  
3 second component, wherein the second component is one of the plurality of  
4 components;  
5 changing the current state of the context to a context state corresponding to the context  
6 associated with the second component if the current first context state and the  
7 context associated with the second component are not equal;  
8 installing the second component as part of the configuration;  
9 upon installing the second component as part of the configuration, changing the second  
10 configuration state to a third configuration state that includes the second  
11 component; and  
12 restoring the stored first context state upon completing installation of the second  
13 component without changing the third configuration state.

1 23. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein changing a state of the  
2 configuration to a second configuration state that includes the first component further comprises:  
3 including one or more first additional components in the second configuration state if  
4 installing the first component as part of the configuration requires including the  
5 one or more first additional components; and  
6 removing one or more second additional components in the second configuration state if  
7 installing the first component of the configuration requires removing the one or  
8 more second additional components.

1           24.     (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 2 wherein if the first  
2 context state and the context associated with the first component are equal, the memory further  
3 includes code executable by the processor to:

4           retain the first context state as the current context state;  
5           install the first component as part of the configuration while retaining the first context  
6           state as the current context state; and  
7           upon installation of the first component as part of the configuration, change a state of the  
8           configuration to a second configuration state that includes the first component  
9           while retaining the first context state as the current context state.

1           25.     (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 2 wherein the memory  
2 further includes code executable by the processor to:

3           store the current first context state in response to a requirement for the installation of a  
4           second component, wherein the second component is one of the plurality of  
5           components;  
6           change the current state of the context to a context state corresponding to the context  
7           associated with the second component if the current first context state and the  
8           context associated with the second component are not equal;  
9           install the second component as part of the configuration;  
10          upon installation of the second component as part of the configuration, change the second  
11          state to a third configuration state that includes the second component; and  
12          restore the stored first context state upon completing installation of the second component  
13          without changing the third configuration state.

1           26.     (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 2 wherein:  
2 the second configuration state also includes one or more first additional components in  
3 the first configuration state if installation of the first component as part of the  
4 configuration requires including the one or more first additional components; and  
5 the second configuration state excludes one or more second additional components in the  
6 first configuration state if installation of the first component of the configuration  
7 requires removing the one or more second additional components.

1           27.     (Currently Amended) An apparatus for generating a configuration comprising a  
2 plurality of components each having an associated context, said associated context equal to one  
3 or more of a plurality of values, said method comprising:

4           means for storing a current first context state in response to a requirement for the  
5           installation of a first component, wherein the first component is one of the  
6           plurality of components and the first context state represents state of a context to  
7           which the first component belongs and the context represents a limitation of  
8           choices for components;

9           means for changing the current state of the context to a context state corresponding to the  
10          context associated with the first component if the current first context state and  
11          the context associated with the first component are not equal;

12          means for installing the first component as part of the configuration;

13          means for changing a first state of the configuration to a second configuration state that  
14          includes the first component upon installing the first component as part of the  
15          configuration; and

16          means for restoring the stored first context state upon completing installation of the first  
17          component without changing the second configuration state.

1           28.     (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the plurality of  
2 components of the configuration are selected from a group of components, the method further  
3 comprising:

4           upon installing the first component as part of the configuration, determining whether to  
5           install one or more additional components based upon installation of the first  
6           component; and

7           if one or more additional components are to be installed based upon installation of the  
8           first component, selecting the one or more additional components to be installed,  
9           wherein the context associated with the first component limits available choices  
10          from which the one or more additional components can be selected to a subset of  
11          the group of components.

1           29.   (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 2 wherein the plurality of  
2 components of the configuration are selected from a group of components and the memory  
3 further includes code executable by the processor to:

4           determine, upon installation of the first component as part of the configuration, whether  
5           to install one or more additional components based upon installation of the first  
6           component; and

7           select the one or more additional components to be installed if one or more additional  
8           components are to be installed based upon installation of the first component,  
9           wherein the context associated with the first component limits available choices  
10          from which the one or more additional components can be selected to a subset of  
11          the plurality of components.

1           30.   (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 27 wherein the plurality of  
2 components of the configuration are selected from a group of components, the apparatus further  
3 comprising:

4           means for determining, upon installation of the first component as part of the  
5           configuration, whether to install one or more additional components based upon  
6           installation of the first component; and

7           means for selecting the one or more additional components to be installed if one or more  
8           additional components are to be installed based upon installation of the first  
9           component, wherein the context associated with the first component limits  
10          available choices from which the one or more additional components can be  
11          selected to a subset of the plurality of components.

1           31.   (Currently Amended) A computer program product having code executable by a  
2 processor stored thereon to generate a configuration comprising a plurality of components each  
3 having an associated context, said associated context equal to one or more of a plurality of  
4 values, wherein the code is further configured to:

5           store a current first context state in response to a requirement for the installation of a first  
6           component, wherein the first component is one of the plurality of components and



7                   the first context state represents state of a context to which the first component  
8                   belongs and the context represents a limitation of choices for components;  
9           change the current state of the context to a context state corresponding to the context  
10           associated with the first component if the current first context state and the  
11           context associated with the first component are not equal;  
12           install the first component as part of the configuration;  
13           upon installing the first component as part of the configuration, change a first state of the  
14           configuration to a second configuration state that includes the first component;  
15           and  
16           restore the stored first context state upon completing installation of the first component  
17           without changing the second configuration state.

1           32.   (Previously Presented) The computer program product of claim 31 wherein the  
2   code is further configured to:  
3           determine, upon installation of the first component as part of the configuration, whether  
4           to install one or more additional components based upon installation of the first  
5           component; and  
6           select the one or more additional components to be installed if one or more additional  
7           components are to be installed based upon installation of the first component,  
8           wherein the context associated with the first component limits available choices  
9           from which the one or more additional components can be selected to a subset of  
10          the plurality of components.